

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1615
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
CLOSING DOWN OF PAK HIGH COMMISSION
SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether demands have been made to shut down Pak High Commission at New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the staff posted at Pak High Commission is linked with ISI agents; and
- (d) if so, the facts thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a)&(b) Following the 13th December terrorist attack on Parliament by two Pakistan-based terrorist groups, Government announced a series of diplomatic steps against Pakistan including a reduction by 50% in the respective strengths of the High Commissions in the two countries. This step was announced on 27th December 2001.

(c)&(d) Several instances of officials in the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi indulging in activities incompatible with their official status, including smuggling and espionage, have come to light.